

**Communicable Disease Epidemiology  
and Immunization Section**

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

**206-296-4774** Fax 206-296-4803  
TTY Relay: 711

[www.kingcounty.gov/health](http://www.kingcounty.gov/health)

**Public Health**   
Seattle & King County

# **Hepatitis A Alert**

**April 22, 2011**

**Hepatitis A is spreading among users of methamphetamines and heroin in east King County (Preston, Snoqualmie, and North Bend): GET PROTECTED!**

**Hepatitis A is a liver infection that can be very serious.**

**It's easy to spread to others.**

## **Do you have any of these symptoms of hepatitis A?**

- **Yellow color to skin or eyes (jaundice)?**
- **Dark “tea-colored” urine?**
- **Pale bowel movements?**
- **Fever, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and fatigue?**

**Anyone who has symptoms of hepatitis A should see a healthcare provider promptly. Also, call Public Health at 206-296-4774, Monday-Friday from 8am to 5pm. A blood test can be done to tell if you have hepatitis A. If you have been in contact with someone who has hepatitis A, contact Public Health and your healthcare provider as soon as possible for treatment to prevent you from getting sick.**

## **Protect yourself against hepatitis A**

- **Ask your healthcare provider to give you the hepatitis A vaccine, especially if you:**
  - **Are a man who has sex with other men**
  - **Use drugs**
  - **Travel outside the United States**
  - **Have chronic liver disease (including hepatitis B or C)**
  - **Have a clotting factor disorder such as hemophilia**
  - **Just want protection against hepatitis A**
- **Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and lots of warm water:**
  - **After using the bathroom**
  - **Before preparing or eating food and drink**
  - **Before and after sex**
  - **Before shooting drugs**

**You do not need hepatitis A vaccine if you have already had hepatitis A or have been vaccinated in the past.**